

FREDERICK A. DRISCOL.

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MARCH 23, 1896.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House and ordered to be printed.

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Mr. ANDREWS, from the Committee on Invalid Pensions, submitted the following

REPORT:

[To accompany H. R. 4655.]

The Committee on Invalid Pensions, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 4655) granting a pension to Frederick A. Driscol, having considered the same, respectfully report:

Frederick A. Driscol enlisted May 26, 1862, and was honorably discharged September 2, 1862; reenlisted September 18, 1862, and honorably discharged September 18, 1863, on surgeon's certificate of disability.

On November 4, 1891, and also on January 25, 1895, he applied for pension under act of June 27, 1890.

The examination made by the pension board of surgeons of Denver, Colo., on March 16, 1892, gives a total rating of twelve-eighteenths, and the examination made by the Denver board on September 25, 1895, gives a total disability rating of twenty-eighteenths, but both applications were rejected as not ratably disabled under act of June 27, 1890.

Claimant alleges that his disease of eye was incurred at Fredericksburg, Va., and that he suffered with aphonia, chronic inflammation of respiratory organs, cough and ulceration of throat, rheumatism, and heart disease contracted in service, and with kidney disease and affection of ears contracted since service; but at this late date is unable to satisfactorily establish his claim of service origin, and that he is totally unfitted for manual labor and is wholly dependent upon his own labor for the support of himself and family.

He has a hospital record of "aphonia" February 9 to 27, 1863, when he was furloughed from Mount Pleasant Hospital, Washington, D. C. He was "absent sick" April 30, 1863, and applied for fifteen days' extension of furlough.

Dr. C. C. Brace filed May 29, 1894, that claimant's case was one of hypertrophy of heart, chronic bronchitis, defective vision of one eye, and chronic pharyngitis. Disabilities permanent, and thinks him incapable of performing manual labor.

Dr. A. K. Worthington testified, same date:

He has converging strabismus of left eye, counts fingers at one foot, right eye normal; there is minute crepitation of lower lobe of right lung, axillary line, and in posterior parts; the heart apex is at sixth intercostal space, systolic impulse palpable in epigastrium; pulse rate 100 standing; the heart is hypertrophied and he has chronic bronchitis; he has also chronic pharyngitis, not due to vicious habits. Disabilities permanent in character, rendering claimant unable to earn a support by manual labor.

Dr. Chase, an eye specialist, testifies to strabismus of left eye, by which he can count fingers at 2 feet when held little to one side.

Dr. W. F. McClelland, a respectable citizen, certifies he has known Frederick A. Driscoll for twenty-five or twenty-six years, and in his opinion his disabilities are the result of army service. He is blind in left eye and crippled with rheumatism. Thinks, as a professional man, having practiced medicine for over forty years, that he is entitled to pension.

Frank Church, president police board, Denver, Colo., certifies he has known claimant over a quarter of a century and believes him entitled to pension. He is blind in one eye and crippled with rheumatism.

D. C. Packard certifies he has been a neighbor for twelve years, and knows he is unfit to perform manual labor.

John F. Barber, W. W. Richey, and W. A. McGrew, all prominent and reputable citizens of Denver, Colo., certify that Driscoll is blind in one eye and is a sufferer from chronic rheumatism and piles, and believe he should be pensioned.

In view of the facts presented your committee recommend the passage of the bill.

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